



# **United States District Court Northern District of California**

MALIBU MEDIA, LLC,

Plaintiff,

VS.

JANE DOE, subscriber assigned IP address 50.161.74.133

Defendant.

Case Number: 3:15-cv-05387-WHA

MOTION TO QUASH SUBPOENA TO COMCAST

Date: April 29, 2016

Time: 8:00 am

Courtroom 8

Honorable William Alsup

1 TABLE OF CONTENTS 2 I STATEMENT OF ISSUES 3 II INTRODUCTION 4 III **FACTS** 5 IV **ARGUMENT** 6 Good Cause Exists to Quash Subpoena 7 1. Jane Doe's IP Address is not a Static Address as Claimed by Plaintiff 8 2. Plaintiff's Subpoena is not Likely to Lead to Identifying Information That Will 9 Permit Service on Defendant 10 V CONCLUSION 11 **STATEMENT OF ISSUES** 12 I. Should the court compel Comcast to disclose the subscriber's private information, when it 13 is not reasonably likely that such disclosure is going to lead to the identity of the defendant? 14 The answer is no. Comcast should not be disclosing this information. Here are the reasons why. 15 16 17 II. INTRODUCTION Malibu Media LLC contends that defendant shared its movies using a single Internet 18 19 Protocol ("IP") address over the time period January to October 2015. Thus, under Plaintiff's theory, whatever person was using the IP address at issue for file-sharing had consistent access to 20 21 that IP address for at least nine months. Despite this, Plaintiff issued a subpoena to Comcast to 22 identify the subscriber assigned to the IP address for only one single date – October 17, 2015. It is not reasonable, however, to conclude that the subscriber to which Comcast had assigned the IP 23 address for a few days including October 17th, 2015, Jane Doe, is the Defendant, or that disclosure 24 25 of her information to Malibu Media is likely to lead to the identity of Defendant. Comcast uses dynamic IP addresses for residential wireless customers, meaning that it changes 26 27 their IP addresses on a regular basis. Jane Doe is a residential wireless subscriber, and therefore 28 is assigned a dynamic IP address. (Plaintiff is likely aware of this, which explains its subpoena NOTICE OF MOTION TO QUASH SUBPOENA TO COMCAST CASE NO. 3:15-cv-05387-WHA; Page 2 of 6

 tactic; had the subpoena asked Comcast to identify the single subscriber assigned the IP address for the time period from January through October, as contemplated in the Court's order (Dckt #10, 1:26-28), there would have been no responsive information, as numerous people would have been assigned the IP address over the nine month period.) Jane Doe is in the unfortunate position of having been assigned the IP address by Comcast in October. In the case where the infringement by Defendant is alleged to be "persistent", an early subpoena seeking subscriber information for a single date is not reasonable, and Jane Doe's personal information should not be disclosed to Malibu Media.

This subpoena has already required many hours of trying to get information from Comcast and preparing this motion, as well as actual costs to sign up to the Identity Guard identity theft service that Comcast directed the subscriber to and is financially interested in, even though Comcast is the one that caused this problem by assigning an IP address that was being improperly used. If the subpoena is not quashed, to avoid being improperly named in the suit, Jane Doe will surely have to give even more personal information to Plaintiff to establish that she had nothing to do with and knows nothing about the alleged movie-sharing. Finally, because of the stage at which Jane Doe is being forced to defend herself, her ability to find an attorney or get attorney's fees if she finds one, is very limited. Jane Doe respectfully requests that the Court quash the subpoena to Comcast.

#### III. FACTS

- 1. Jane Doe is a Comcast subscriber, and received a letter from the Comcast Legal Response Center indicating that she was identified via her assigned IP address as part of a federal lawsuit that indicated that a device assigned the listed IP address was used to infringe the Plaintiff's copyrights on a single date at a specific time (10/17/2015 17:23:25 GMT).
- 2. Jane Doe received information from Comcast that she has dynamic IP addresses that, by law, change every week.

NOTICE OF MOTION TO QUASH SUBPOENA TO COMCAST CASE NO. 3:15-cv-05387-WHA; Page 3 of 6

. .

3. According to the Plaintiff's Complaint: "Defendant's Internet was used to infringe 25 of Plaintiff's copyrighted movies between 01/21/2015 and 10/17/2005. See Exhibit A to Complaint. Defendant's internet has been used to illegally download Plaintiff's movies over the course of several months. ... The length of time which Plaintiff's investigator recorded Defendant infringing Plaintiff's movies demonstrates that the infringer was not a mere guest or passerby. It was someone with access to Defendant's internet for a long period of time, consistently." (Dkt. 9, 8:18-26.).

Plaintiff claims that one single person has had the same IP address for at least 9 months, and that Jane Doe was the alleged repeat infringer.

#### IV. ARGUMENTS

#### Good Cause Exists to Quash the Motion

1. <u>Dynamic IP address.</u> Through Comcast, Jane Doe has a dynamic IP address, not a static one. Unlike the necessarily static IP address of the Defendant whom the Plaintiff describes, residential wireless customers have dynamic IP addresses that change every week. This fact was verified through various communications with the Comcast Advanced Wireless Gateway Support Team, most recently on a phone call on Sunday, 6<sup>th</sup> March.

Exemplifying this clear technical fact, Jane Doe's dynamic IP address is now different from the one listed in the subpoena for both the private residential network and the public wifi hotspot (see Exhibits A and Exhibit C). Only businesses have a static address, as Comcast does not allow static addresses for residential wireless customers. A static address is an additional service that has a fee and which clearly appears on the Business subscriber contract. Jane Doe has a normal residential contract. With a dynamic IP address that changed weekly, she could not have been the infringer associated with the cited single IP address over many months, as alleged in the plaintiff's complaint.

# 2. <u>Plaintiff's Subpoena is not Likely to Lead to Identifying Information That Will</u> Permit Service on Defendant.

Even in the instance that Jane Doe's wireless network was assigned the IP address associated with the specific date and time of the single alleged copyright infringement cited in the subpoena, this in no way indicates that she was the alleged infringer.

Every Comcast router broadcasts two different wireless networks: a private residential network and a public wifi hotspot (Xfinity). The recently observed IP addresses of the public hotspot (50.141.34.191 on 03/04/2016, see Exhibit A, and 50.141.33.32 on 03/09/2016, see Exhibit B) are drawn from the same pool of IP addresses (50.\*.\*, assigned to Comcast Cable Communications Holdings, Inc, see Exhibit D) as the subpoenaed IP address (50.161.74.133). By contrast, the recently observed IP address of the private network (73.241.50.169 on 03/01/2016, see Exhibit C) is drawn from a different pool of IP addresses apparently assigned to a different entity affiliated with Comcast (73.\*.\*, assigned to Comcast IP Services, L.L.C., see Exhibit E). This strongly suggests that the subpoenaed IP address was actually assigned to the public hotspot, though only Comcast can tell for sure. Anyone with Comcast Xfinity credentials (his/her own or borrowed ones) could have accessed the internet and infringed the plaintiff's copyright using the public hotspot.

Even under the assumption that the private residential network was assigned the subpoenaed IP address, this still does not indicate that Jane Doe was the alleged infringer. The private residential network is shared among all roommates and visitors that have been granted access to the network. Furthermore, someone could have illicitly obtained the password necessary to access the residential network. Honorable Judge Otis D. Wright (Malibu Media v. John Does 1-10 (12-cv-3623)) underlines this point in one of his judgments:

"In lawsuits against Doe defendants, the plaintiff should ordinarily be allowed discovery to uncover their identities. Gillespie v. Civiletti, 629 F.2d 637, 642 (9th Cir.1980). But discovery may be denied if it is (1) clear that discovery would not uncover the identities, or (2) that the complaint would be dismissed on other grounds. Id.

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Under the first condition, Malibu represents that these ISP subscriber logs will lead to the individual infringers. (Mot. 5.) Assuming that is true, the subscriber may not be the actual infringer. For instance, a person may be the subscriber, but his roommate is the actual infringer. And the subscriber may have his home network configured to allow visitors, including strangers, to access the Internet—and use BitTorrent. (...)." (Dckt 7, 4:6-14).

The reasons above further demonstrate that revealing Jane Doe's identifying information to the plaintiff would not provide sufficient information to identify the alleged infringer.

#### V. CONCLUSION

Date: <u>3/10/2016</u>

Given that (a) Jane Doe's internet service provider, Comcast, assigns dynamic IP addresses and therefore would not have had a single IP address over multiple months, and (b) that numerous people have access to that internet network, disclosure of her personal information via the subpoena filed by the plaintiff would not lead to sufficient information to identify the alleged infringer. Therefore, Jane Doe respectfully requests that the Court quash the subpoena to Comcast.

Respectfully submitted,

Signature:		
Printed name:	[signed]	

Pro Se

NOTICE OF MOTION TO QUASH SUBPOENA TO COMCAST CASE NO. 3:15-cv-05387-WHA; Page 6 of 6

IP Location Finder - Geolocation

Exhibit A

https://www.iplocation.net/





Where is Geolocation of an IP Address?

G+1 2.2k

ManageEngins ADManager Pius

Web based Active Directory
Management & Reporting Software

Add/Edit Bulk Users

Reset Password

And Fedit Bulk Users

Reset Password

And Pedit Bulk Users

Reset Password

And Pedit Bulk Users

Reset Password

And Pedit Bulk Users

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Your public IP Address is 50.141.34.191.

Hide IP with VPN

**IP Location** Finder

IP or IPv6 Address

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## Where is Geolocation of an IP Address?

G+1 , 2.2k



Geolocation for IP 50.141.33.32. **Hide IP with VPN** 

IP Location Finder

IPv4, IPv6 Address or Domain Name

IP Lookup

Do you have a problem with IP location lookup? Report a problem.



My IP (/)

IP Lookup (/ip-lookup)

Hide My IP (/hide-my-ip)

IP Geolocation API (/ip-geolocation

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## What Is My IP Address?

- f (https://www.facebook.com/sharer/sharer.php? u=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.myiplocator.net%2F)
- (https://twitter.com/intent/tweet?text=What%20Is%20My%20IP%20Address%3F%20-%20MyIPLocator&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.myiplocator.net%2F)
  - & (https://plus.google.com/share?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.myiplocator.net%2F)

73.241.50.169 Lookup

https://whois.arin.net/rest/net/NET-50-128-0-0-1



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#### WHOIS-RWS

Net Range	50.128.0.0 - 50.255.255.255
CIDR	50.128.0.0/9
Name	CCCH3-4
Handle	NET-50-128-0-0-1
Parent	NET50 (NET-50-0-0-0)
Net Type	Direct Allocation
Origin AS	A\$7922
Organization	Comcast Cable Communications Holdings, Inc (CCCH-3)
Registration Date	2010-10-21
Last Updated	2010-10-21
Comments	
RESTful Link	https://whois.arin.net/rest/net/NET-50-128-0-0-1
See Also	Related PCC records.
See Also	Related organization's POC records.
See Also	Related delegations.

Network Tain 1975 The State of the State of

#### RELEVANT LINKS

- > ARIN Whois/Whois-RWS Terms of Service
- > Report Whois Inaccuracy
- > Whois-RWS API documentation
- > ARIN Technical Discussion Mailing List
- > Sample stylesheet (xsl)

Site Map Search ARIN Privacy Statement Accessibility By using the ARIN Whois service, you are agreeing to the Whois Terms of Use © Copyright 1997 - 2016, American Registry for Internet Numbers



SEARCH WholsRWS

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Network	
Net Range	73.0.0.0 - 73.255.255.255
CIDR	73.0.0.0/8
Name	CABLE-1
Handle	NET-73-0-0-01
Parent	NET73 (NET-73-0-0-0)
Nat Type	Direct Allocation
Origin AS	
Organization	Comcast IP Services, L.L.C. (CISL-5)
Registration Date	2005-04-19
Last Updated	2013-12-19
Comments	
RESTful Link	https://whois.arin.net/rest/nat/NET-73-0-0-1
See Also	Related POC records.
See Also	Related organization's POC records.
See Also	Related delegations.

#### RELEVANT LINKS

- > ARIN Whois/Whois-RWS Terms of Service
- > Report Whois Inaccuracy
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- > ARIN Technical Discussion Mailing List
- > Sample stylesheet (xsl)

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## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

MALIBU MEDIA, LLC,

Plaintiff(s),

VS.

JANE DOE, subscriber assigned IP address 50.161.74.133

Defendant.

Case Number: \_3:15-cv-05387-WHA

**DECLARATION OF** 

IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO QUASH SUBPOENA TO COMCAST

DECLARATION OF

CASE NO. 3:15-cv-05387-WHA

PAGE NO. 1 OF 3

In support of Defendant's Motion to Quash Subpoena to Comcast, I, declare as follows:

- 1. I am the Defendant. I am a Comcast subscriber. I submit this declaration in support of the attached Motion to Quash Subpoena to Comcast. I received information from Comcast that I have dynamic IP addresses that, by law, change every week. I recognize that multiple individuals, both known and possibly unknown to me, have access to internet via the IP addresses associated with my Comcast internet router.
- 2. I have personal knowledge of all facts stated in this declaration, and if called to testify, I could and would testify competently thereto.
- 3. Attached hereto as Exhibit A is a copy of the internet webpage (https://www.iplocation.net) identifying the IP address associated with my router via the public wifi hotspot (Xfinity) service on 3/4/2016.
- 4. Attached hereto as Exhibit B is a copy of the internet webpage (https://www.iplocation.net) identifying the IP address associated with my router via the public wifi hotspot (Xfinity) network on 3/9/2016.
- 5. Attached hereto as Exhibit C is a copy of the internet webpage (https://www.myiplocator.net) identifying the IP address associated with my router via the private residential network on 3/1/2016.
- 6. Attached hereto as Exhibit D is a copy of the internet webpage (https://whois.arin.net/rest/net/NET-50-128-0-0-1) identifying the pool of IP addresses associated with the IP address listed in the subpoena as well as the two IP addresses associated with my public wifi hotspot (Xfinity) network on two different dates, as identified in exhibits A and B.
- 7. Attached hereto as Exhibit E is a copy of the internet webpage (https://whois.arin.net/rest/net/NET-73-0-0-0-1) identifying the pool of IP addresses associated with an IP address assigned to my private residential network, as identified in exhibit C.

DECLARATION OF CASE NO. 3:15-cv-05387-WHA

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed on 03/10/2016. Date: 03/10/2016 Signature: [signed] By: DECLARATION OF CASE NO. 3:15-cv-05387-WHA PAGE NO. 3 OF 3

Case 3:15-cv-05387-WHA Document 15 Filed 03/10/16 Page 14 of 21

IP Location Finder - Geolocation

Exhibit A

https://www.iplocation.net/



Where is Geolocation of an IP Address?

G+1 2.2k

ManageEngine ADManager Plus

Web based Active Directory

Management & Reporting Software

Add/Edit Bulk Users

Add

Your public IP Address is **50.141.34.191**.

Hide IP with VPN

IP Location Finder

IP or IPv6 Address

IP Lookup

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### Where is Geolocation of an IP Address?

G+1 , 2.2k



### Geolocation for IP **50.141.33.32**. Hide IP with VPN

IP Location Finder

IPv4, IPv6 Address or Domain Name

IP Lookup

Do you have a problem with IP location lookup? Report a problem.

What Is My IP Address? - MyIPLocator

https://www.myiplocator.net/

1/3/2016



My IP (/)

IP Lookup (/ip-lookup)

Hide My IP (/hide-my-ip)

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IP Geolocation API (/ip-geolocation

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### What Is My IP Address?

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- %20MyIPLocator&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.myiplocator.net%2F)
  - 8 (https://plus.google.com/share?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.myiplocator.net%2F)

	f
73.241.50.169	Lookup

https://whois.arin.net/rest/net/NET-50-128-0-0-1



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#### WHOIS-RWS

Network	
Net Range	50.128.0.0 - 50.255.255.255
CIDR	50.128.0.0/9
Name	CCCH3-4
Handle	NET-50-128-0-0-1
Parent	NET50 (NET-50-0-0-0-0)
Net Type	Direct Allocation
Origin AS	AS7922
Organization	Comcast Cable Communications Holdings, Inc (CCCH-3)
Registration Date	2010-10-21
Last Updated	2010-10-21
Comments	
RESTful Link	https://whois.arin.net/rest/net/NET-50-128-0-0-1
See Also	Related POC records.
See Also	Related organization's POC records.
See Also	Related delegations.

#### **RELEVANT LINKS**

- > ARIN Whois/Whois-RWS Terms of Service
- > Report Whois Inaccuracy
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- > Sample stylesheet (xsl)

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#### WHOIS-RWS

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Network	
Net Range	73.0.0.0 - 73.255.255.255
CIDR	73.0.0.0/8
Name	CABLE-1
Handle	NET-73-0-0-0-1
Parent	NET73 ( <u>NET-73-0-0-0</u> )
Net Type	Direct Allocation
Ongin AS	
Organization	Comcast IP Services, L.L.C. (CISL-5)
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Comments	
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7		CS DISTRICT COURT RICT OF CALIFORNIA
8		) Case Number: 3:15-cv-05387-WHA
9	MALIBU MEDIA, LLC,	) ) [PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING
10		
11	Plaintiff(s),	) MOTION TO QUASH SUBPOENA TO ) COMCAST
12	vs.	)
13	JANE DOE, subscriber assigned IP address 50.161.74.133	}
14	30.101.723	Ś
15		}
16	Defendant.	
17		
18		_5
19	Having considered the papers, and fine	ding that good cause exists, Defendant's
20	Motion to Quash Subpoena to Comcas	et is GRANTED.
21	IT IS SO ORDERED.	
22		
23		
24	Date:	•
25		
26		United States District/Magistrate Judge
27		
28		
	[PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING MOTIO	N, CASE NO. 3:15-cv-05387-WHA